MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 2, 2017/2018

PCR0025 – CRITICAL THINKING

(All sections / Groups)

12 MARCH 2018
2.30 p.m – 4.30 p.m
(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

1. This question paper consists of **7 pages**.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in this question paper.

STRUCTURED QUESTIONS [50 MARKS]

Instructions: Answer **ALL** questions. Write your answers in the question paper.

Question 1 [10 marks]

1. Analyse the dialogues below and indicate if they are statements or non-statements. Provide explanation for every answer given.

(4 marks)

Shafiq : *Smoking is not good for health.*
Peter : *Come on!*
Shafiq : *You should stop before you get addicted to it.*
Peter : *Don't you know that smoking is cool?*
Shafiq : *Yeah, right!*

i. *Smoking is not good for health.*

_____

_____

ii. *Come on!*

_____

_____

iii. *You should stop before you get addicted to it.*

_____

_____

iv. *Don't you know that smoking is cool?*

_____

_____

2. Analyse the following arguments and identify premise/s and conclusion for each of the argument.

(6 marks)

i. Policeman : *How did the accident happen?*
Tan : *I'm telling you, I'm not at fault.*
That old lady hit me from the rear.
Anytime you get rear-ended, it's not your fault.

Continued...

Premise/s: _____

_____

_____

Conclusion: _____

_____

ii. Writing is revision because excellence emerges only through many cycles of writing and reading, performance and feedback. (Grant Wiggins, *Educative Assessment: Designing Assessments to Inform and Improve Student Performance*, 1998).

Premise/s: _____

_____

_____

Conclusion: _____

_____

iii. If Seeman gets selected as the President of English Club, then Michael will be passed over twice. If Michael is passed over a second time, then there will be a complaint filed by him. Thus, if Seeman gets selected as the President of English Club, you will get a complaint letter.

Premise/s: _____

_____

_____

Conclusion: _____

_____

Continued...

Question 2

Analyse the arguments below and decide whether the following arguments are deductive or inductive by indicating which specific pattern the argument exemplifies. If the argument is deductive, determine whether it is valid or invalid. If the argument is inductive, determine whether it is strong or weak.

(15 marks)

1. According to the New York Public Library Desk Reference, the pop-up toaster was invented by Charles Strite in 1927. The New York Public Library Desk Reference is a highly reliable reference work. Therefore, it is reasonable to believe that Charles Strite did invent the pop-up toaster in 1927.

   i. This argument is a(an) _____ argument.

   ii. The specific pattern of this argument is _____.

   iii. After analysing its' logical correctness, this argument is _____.

   (3 marks)

2. All inductive generalizations are inductive. Some inductive generalizations are unreliable. Therefore, some inductive arguments are unreliable.

   i. This argument is a(an) _____ argument.

   ii. The specific pattern of this argument is _____.

   iii. After analysing its' logical correctness, this argument is _____.

   (3 marks)

3. Mary is 38 years old and Ruby is exactly 8 years younger than Mary, it necessarily follows that Ruby is 30 years old.

   i. This argument is a(an) _____ argument.

   ii. The specific pattern of this argument is _____.

   iii. After analysing its' logical correctness, this argument is _____.

   (3 marks)

4. In a random survey of ten thousand medical students around Malaysia, fewer than 20 percent said they enjoyed listening to rock music. Therefore, it is likely most of Malaysian medical students love to listen to rock music.

   i. This argument is a(an) _____ argument.

   ii. The specific pattern of this argument is _____.

   iii. After analysing its' logical correctness, this argument is _____.

   (3 marks)

Continued...

5. Either alpha or beta. Not beta. Therefore, neither alpha nor beta.

   i. This argument is a(an) _____ argument.

   ii. The specific pattern of this argument is _____.

   iii. After analysing its' logical correctness, this argument is _____.

(3 marks)

Question 3

The following arguments are either deductive or inductive. Analyse and determine whether the arguments are **sound or unsound** OR **cogent or uncogent**. Explain your answer in each case.

(10 marks)

1. We are not in Mexico, because if we are in Mexico City, we are in Mexico, and we are not in Mexico City.

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

2. All Malaysians like to eat spicy food. Ah Chong is a Malaysian. So, Ah Chong probably likes to eat spicy food.

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

3. My grandfather is the father of my father. It follows that, my grandfather is the grandfather of my sister because my father is the father of my sister.

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Continued...

4. Some apples are red. Some apples are delicious. So, some apples are red and delicious.

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

5. Very few people in this country are named Christopher. Therefore, the next person I meet is unlikely to be named Christopher.

_____

_____

_____

(2 marks)

Question 4

Analyse the following passages carefully and solve the problem given.

(5 marks)

1. There are four files on the desk of an officer. File E is heavier than File F. File G is lighter than File D. File F is heavier than File D. If the official needs to organize the file with the heaviest file to be in the bottom position, the file structure from above is _____.

(1 mark)

2. If Delta is an alpha, then Delta is a beta.
   If Delta is a theta, then Delta is a beta.
   Either Delta is an alpha or Delta is a theta.
   Therefore, _____.

(1 mark)

3. A dealer bought a product for RM25, sold it for RM26, bought it back for RM27, and sold it for RM28. How much profit did he make?

_____.

(1 mark)

Continued...

4. Five best friends, Nora, Ivan, Diego, Mei Li and Rani are discussing about a birthday party they want to celebrate for Joshua. Nora says, she will bring chocolate buns or peanut butter sandwich unless somebody else wants to bring doughnut, in which case, she will bring ice lemon tea. Ivan says he is allergic to any kind of nuts but would be happy to bring some doughnut if Nora wants to pick up some ice lemon tea. Diego says he will bring cookies unless somebody brings a dessert, in which case he will bring some homemade dip. Mei Li says if Diego brings a dip, she will bring nachos if nobody else does. Rani says she will bring ice drinks if nobody else does; otherwise, he will bring ice cream.

   If each of these students does what he or she says, and Nora does not bring chocolate bun, what will the other four person bring to the party?

   Ivan : _____
   Diego : _____
   Mei Li : _____
   Rani : _____

   (2 marks)

Question 5

For each of the following, indicate which fallacy is committed by writing the appropriate letter in the space provided. If no fallacy is committed, write 'no fallacy'.

(10 marks)

1. There are far more female students than there are male students taking degree courses in university. Clearly, gender discrimination continues to be a major problem in higher education.

   _____

   (1 mark)

2. If you don't like *nasi lemak*, then you're not a real Malaysian. I know you're a real Malaysian. So, you must like *nasi lemak*.

   _____

   (1 mark)

3. A clerk who steals money from her company justifies her actions by saying that the company has been overcharging customers for years.

   _____

   (1 mark)

Continued...

4. My father always advises me to fasten the seat-belt. Why should I? He often drives without fastening his seat belt.

_____

(1 mark)

5. There is no doubt that television violence is responsible for most crimes, especially juvenile crimes. Nothing else has changed in the last twenty years except that children watch too much television, which is filled with violent actions. Otherwise, children are the same and there's no other explanation except for all that violence on television.

_____

(1 mark)

6. Every time my dog barks at the front door I always find mail in my mailbox. I guess my dog has the power to make mail appear.

_____

(1 mark)

7. You must listen to me! Why? It is because you are not supposed to talk.

_____

(1 mark)

8. The food at our food court is tasteless. I always see so many people queue at the restaurant. My colleagues like to go there for lunch.

_____

(1 mark)

9. No one can prove that taking variety of supplements cause you to have kidney problem. So, taking many types of supplement is good for your health.

_____

(1 mark)

10. Advertisement: Surely, you want to wear NiNi shoes. 90% of Malaysians use NiNi. Do you really want to be the only person not wearing NiNi?

_____

(1 mark)

End of Paper